

NEWS RELEASE

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NEBRASKA CATTLE ON FEED UP 6 PERCENT

LINCOLN, Neb., May 19, 2006 -- Nebraska feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 2.32 million cattle on feed on May 1, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. The inventory was up 6 percent from last year and 10 percent above May 1, 2004. This is the largest May 1 inventory since the data set began in 1994.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 320,000 head, the same as the previous two years.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 390,000 head, up 3 percent from last year but 7 percent below two years ago. Other disappearance during April totaled 10,000 head, the same as 2005 and 2004.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 9 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on May 1, 2006. The inventory was 9 percent above May 1, 2005 and 11 percent above May 1, 2004. This is the highest May 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.63 million, 2 percent below 2005 but 2 percent above 2004.

Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.79 million, down slightly from 2005 and 5 percent below 2004. This the lowest fed cattle marketings for the month of April since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 87,000 during April, 4 percent below 2005 and 10 percent below 2004.

Access the National publication for this release at: http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/pct-bbc/2006/cofd0506.pdf

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